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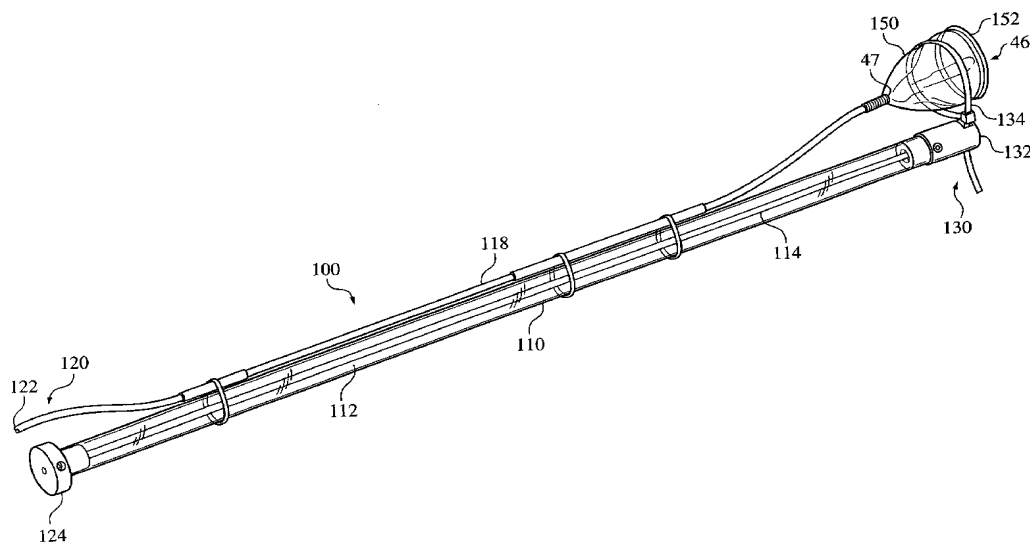
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DEVICE AND METHOD OF USE FOR FUNCTIONAL ISOLATION OF ANIMAL OR HUMAN TISSUES



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for functionally occluding the lumen of the left atrial appendage (LAA) is provided. Access to the LAA is through an epicardial approach. The devices (100, 70) function to capture the LAA through various non-invasive means. After capturing the LAA with the devices and methods provided, a clamping device (134) is preferably disposed about the base of the appendage. In certain embodiments, the appendage remains viable subsequent to the functional occlusion of the lumen.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/15346

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 17/24

US CL : 606/113

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 606/11, 112, 113, 114; 600/37; 128/898

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X,P --- Y,P	US 6,485,407 B2 (ALFERNESS et al.) 26 November 2002 (26.11.2002), see figures 12, 20, and 21.	1,11,32,34,36- 39,41,43,45- 48,54,55,57 ----- 33,49,56
A,P	US 6,494,211 B1 (BOYD et al.) 17 December 2002, see figures 36 and 37.	1-63

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

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"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 December 2003 (12.12.2003)

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/15346

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST BRS

search terms: heart, snare, roller, atrial, appendage, clamp, left, vacuum